

The Gambler Chords (ver 5) by Kenny Rogers

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Artist: Kenny Rogers
Song: The Gambler

Intro:

```

e|-----0-----0---3~5-0-|
B|-0h2---2-3-2p0-0h2---2-----|
G|-----|
D|-----|
A|-----|
E|-----|

```

x 2

Verse 1: (add9 to the E on every 3rd beat throughout 1st 2 verses)

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      E              A/E              E
On a warm summer's evenin' on a train bound for nowhere,
E                                  B7
I met up with the gambler; we were both too tired to sleep.
      E              A/E              E
So we took turns a starin' out the window at the darkness
      B7              E
'til boredom overtook us, and he began to speak.

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Verse 2: (Bass in)

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      E              A/E              E
He said, "Son, I've made a life out of readin' people's faces,
                                  B7
and knowin' what their cards were by the way they held their eyes.
      E              A/E              E
And if you don't mind my sayin', I can see you're out of aces.
      A/E              E              B7              E
For a taste of your whiskey I'll give you some advice."

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Verse 3: (strumming starts)

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      E              A              E
So I handed him my bottle and he drank down my last swallow.
                                  B7
Then he bummed a cigarette and asked me for a light.
      E              A              E
And the night got deathly quiet, and his face lost all expression.
      A              E              B7              E
Said, "If you're gonna play the game, boy, ya gotta learn to play it right.

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Chorus:

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      E              A              E
You got to know when to hold 'em, know when to fold 'em,
A              E              B7
know when to walk away and know when to run.
      E      A      E              A              E
You never count your money when you're sittin' at the table.
      E      A      E              B7              E
There'll be time enough for countin' when the dealin's done.

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Verse 4: (Key change)

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F              Bb              F
Ev'ry gambler knows that the secret to survivin'
                                  C
is knowin' what to throw away and knowing what to keep.

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F **Bb** **F**
 'Cause ev'ry hand's a winner and ev'ry hand's a loser,
Bb **F** **C** **F**
 and the best that you can hope for is to die in your sleep."

Verse 5:

F **Bb** **F**
 And when he'd finished speakin', he turned back towards the window,
C7
 crushed out his cigarette and faded off to sleep.

F **Bb** **F**
 And somewhere in the darkness the gambler, he broke even.
Bb **F** **C7** **F**
 But in his final words I found an ace that I could keep.

Chorus:

F **Bb** **F**
 You got to know when to hold 'em, know when to fold 'em,
Bb **F** **C7**
 know when to walk away and know when to run.

F **Bb** **F** **Bb** **F**
 You never count your money when you're sittin' at the table.
F **Bb** **F** **C7** **F**
 There'll be time enough for countin' when the dealin's done.

A cappello chorus

Chorus

END

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| This file is the author's own work and represents their interpretation |
| of the song. You may only use this file for private study, scholarship, |
| or research. |
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[Show/hide chords diagrams](#)

Add more chord diagrams to the list:

C7	C	Bb
E -X- --- --- --- --- o B -X- --- -4- --- --- o G -X- --- --- --- --- o D -X- --- -3- --- --- o A -X- --- --- --- --- o E --- --- --- --- --- x 3 fr.	E --- --- --- --- --- o B -1- --- --- --- --- o G --- --- --- --- --- o D --- -2- --- --- --- o A --- --- -3- --- --- o E --- --- --- --- --- x	E -X- --- --- --- --- o B -X- --- -4- --- --- o G -X- --- -3- --- --- o D -X- --- -2- --- --- o A -X- --- --- --- --- o E --- --- --- --- --- x 1 fr.
F	A	B7
E -X- --- --- --- --- o	E --- --- --- --- --- o	E --- -4- --- --- --- o

B	-X-	---	---	---	---	o
G	-X-	-2-	---	---	---	o
D	-X-	---	-4-	---	---	o
A	-X-	---	-3-	---	---	o
E	-X-	---	---	---	---	o

1 fr.

B	---	-3-	---	---	---	o
G	---	-2-	---	---	---	o
D	---	-1-	---	---	---	o
A	---	---	---	---	---	o
E	---	---	---	---	---	x

B	---	---	---	---	---	o
G	---	-3-	---	---	---	o
D	-1-	---	---	---	---	o
A	---	-2-	---	---	---	o
E	---	---	---	---	---	x

A/E

E	---	---	---	---	---	o
B	---	-3-	---	---	---	o
G	---	-2-	---	---	---	o
D	---	-1-	---	---	---	o
A	---	---	---	---	---	o
E	---	---	---	---	---	o

E

E	---	---	---	---	---	o
B	---	---	---	---	---	o
G	-1-	---	---	---	---	o
D	---	-3-	---	---	---	o
A	---	-2-	---	---	---	o
E	---	---	---	---	---	o